QUEENSLAND LAW REFORM COMMISSION

Submissions policy

This policy explains how the Queensland Law Reform Commission treats, and may use, submissions we receive in our law reform reviews. It should be read with our right to information policy.

General principles

We are committed to transparency. Where appropriate, we will make information we rely on in our reviews available to the public.

We must also protect personal and sensitive information given to us in confidence. Members of the public and other stakeholders should have the confidence to provide information to us knowing that we will handle it appropriately.

We must also protect our ability to make full use of submissions to inform our deliberations.

We will comply with the Right to Information Act 2009 when we receive requests for information held by the Commission.

Public submissions

Our preference is to receive public submissions. Submissions are important evidence in our reviews. We often quote from submissions or refer to them in our publications.

We treat all submissions we receive as being in the public domain, unless the submitter clearly indicates that the submission is confidential.

We publish public submissions on our website. We will remove private information, including contact details, from submissions before we publish them.

Non-publication

We reserve the right to not publish a submission, or to redact parts of a submission prior to publication, that in our assessment:

- contains personal or culturally sensitive information
- makes defamatory comments
- abuses, harasses or threatens others
- vilifies others

- uses obscene or offensive language
- infringes the intellectual property rights of others
- does not address issues relevant to the inquiry
- promotes commercial interests
- refers to matters currently before the courts
- discloses legally restricted or confidential information.

The nature of some reviews may enliven consideration of additional matters in relation to the confidentiality, legality and sensitivity of the material we publish.

We seek to ensure that submissions published on our website meet the above criteria. However, if you find anything that you believe is offensive or may align with these criteria, please notify us immediately.

Confidential submissions

We accept submissions made in confidence. We do not publish these submissions on our website. Confidential submissions may include personal experiences where the submitter wishes to retain privacy, or other sensitive information such as commercial-in-confidence material. We may refer to the material in confidential submissions in our publications, in a way that does not identify the submitter or others.

We will refuse any request for access to a confidential submission unless the submitter consents to this or we determine it is appropriate as the outcome of an access request made under the Right to Information Act 2009.

Name withheld

We may agree to publish a submission under the title 'Name Withheld' at the request of the submitter if we determine that there is a good reason (typically privacy).

Oral submissions

We acknowledge oral submissions on our website but do not publish them.